

THE LACLEDE BLADE.

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LACLEDE, MISSOURI, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1906.

\$1.00 A YEAR

HOLIDAY EVENTS

Things of a Social Nature That Have Transpired The Past Week.

Fine Christmas exercises and a tree were held at the Plum Grove school house last Monday evening. The literary part of the program was rendered by the pupils of the public school of that district, of which Miss Bracy Cornett is teacher, and were creditable to all who took part. Many handsome presents were distributed from a tastefully arranged tree. Carl F. Sayles, the faithful and popular superintendent of the Sunday school, received a handsome bible, a gift from the school, and Mrs. S. W. White also received a handsome bible, a gift from her Sunday school class. The attendance comfortably filled the house, and the entertainment was an enjoyable one throughout.

Mrs. Vallie Benson entertained the P. E. O. chapter last Saturday evening; the occasion being the annual Christmas party. The Christmas box was a feature of the evening, followed by a short program in which Mrs. Monnett delighted the members with her readings from Riley. It was a pleasant surprise to have with them Miss Grace Wilson, who is studying in Chicago, and Miss Martha Goodale, of Meadville, two members who are talented pianists and assisted in the musical program. The hostess was assisted by Mrs. Mansur Benson and Miss Susie Benson.

There was a gathering of family relatives and friends at the home of Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Farrar northeast of town last Tuesday and a delightful evening was spent. Those present were Mr. and Mrs. F. E. Webley; L. W. Lomax and wife; Ezra Webley and wife, Mrs. Mary Stephens and family, Frank Stephens, Miss Willie Stephens, Chas. Farrar, wife and family, E. E. Kennedy and family, Chas. Berry and family, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Farrar, Wm. Bassett, Miss Daisy Baker, Mr. and Mrs. Ross Webster and Finley Farrar, of Ainsworth, Neb.

Miss Anna Lomax entertained the following at 6 o'clock dinner Friday: Misses Besse Brown, Emma Fifield, Elvira Maddox and Nellie Currell, of Meadville; Messrs. Harry Newland, Gilbert Thomas, Clair Lomax, Dick Thompson and Ed. Barton.

The Christmas exercises at the M. E. church last Monday night were attended by a full house. The program was good and well rendered and an unusual number of presents were distributed.

Outwits the Surgeon.

A complication of female troubles with catarrh of the stomach and bowels had reduced Mrs. Thos. S. Austin, of Leavenworth, Ind., to such a deplorable condition that her doctor advised an operation, but her husband, fearing fatal results, postponed this to try Electric Bitters, and to the amazement of all who knew her, this medicine completely cured her. Guaranteed cure for torpid liver, kidney disease, biliousness, jaundice, chills and fever, general debility, nervousness and blood poisoning. Best tonic made. Price 50c at W. R. Barton's drug store. Try it.

A 1907 Diary, Memorandum and Account Book for Two Cents.

C. A. Snow & Co., patent lawyers, of Washington, D. C., have now ready their Diary and Memorandum Book for 1907, which they will send on receipt of postage, two cents. This little book is useful. Nowhere else that we know can so much be had for so little.

Advances in Cost of Living.

Close observers must notice not only that the actual cost of living is higher than ever before, but that a higher standard is maintained. This means from the value as measured by dollars, for, from the standpoint of actual human effort, living today is cheaper than ever before in the world's history. The large number of people, however, who have fixed salaries and a considerable number who live from interest on investments, makes the cost of living a serious matter, and some complaint is being heard. Wages have been recently advanced in many places, this increase has been provided for so far as they are concerned, but that there is considerable complaint there can be no doubt. There is also complaint among those who employ labor, not only on the farm, but generally, as to the difficulty of getting help and high wages demanded. We have recently heard the expression that times are too good, that labor is too independent and that something should be done to bring about a change. It seems that people are never satisfied, for when there was little work and low wages people were dissatisfied, and now when the opposite condition prevails the change is too great. It is useless to rail against conditions and the fact that wages are so high that laborers do not need to work more than half the time to earn a living is all right, for many have lived without work so long that they desire a monopoly of living easily while others toil. "Let well enough alone," is our motto.

A Happy New Year to You.

We wish you all a Happy and Prosperous New Year, and we promise to do our best to please you, both in price and quality of goods in our line, during the coming year.

We owe you many thanks for your patronage of 1906 and we know we have cut our profits lower than ever before. But we also know that we shall come nearer to realizing our goal than ever before. You will remember we started out this year to sell \$70,000.00 worth. While we shall not quite reach the mark, still it has been a good fight for it, and this encourages us to make a new mark for 1907.

We are going to strive to sell \$90,000.00 worth in 1907, and in order to do this immense business we shall again cut profits, which will be quite noticeable to all. The profit sharing plan we have carried out during the past has amounted to a great many dollars to our customers. Our customers have received over 400 42-piece dinner sets, over 120 rockers, several couches, a large number of silver-plated pieces, framed pictures and china.

That this has cost us several hundred dollars you are well aware, and you also know you have bought your goods in all lines cheaper than you could have bought them in surrounding towns. You also know we have paid the highest prices for all produce paid in this country. This will be our policy during the coming year, and, working on these lines with the volume of business as our goal, we hope to accomplish more during 1907 than in the past year.

Again thanking you for your patronage and hoping the crops may be "bumper" ones, that in all lines of business you may be successful, and last, but not least, that we may reach our \$90,000.00 mark in the year to come.

We are yours truly,
THE MODEL,
C. E. Hilton, Prop.

Reserved seat sale now open for the Trousdale Bros. Theatre Co. at the usual place three nights, commencing Monday, December 31.

HERE AND THERE.

Doings That Have Taken Place in Laclede the Past Week.

The Modern Woodmen minstrels, a local talent, drew a good audience to the opera house Thursday night. The program was a lively one from start to finish and all taking part did well and merited the hearty applause received.

The quarterly meeting of the Linn county association of rural letter carriers was held at Mayor Felt's office in Laclede last Sunday. A dozen or more were in attendance and the meeting was an important one in the way of business transacted.

Earl Shelton, who recently came here with his parents from Illinois, has opened a barber shop in the corner room of the Allen building. Mr. Shelton has had several years experience as a barber and for the past year and a half conducted a shop of his own. He solicits a share of your patronage and guarantees good work and courteous treatment.

At a meeting of the Modern Woodmen camp last Wednesday night, the program for the installation of officers on the night of January 9 was changed in that it will not be public. Only Modern Woodmen and their families and Royal Neighbors and their families will be admitted, and it will be held at Odd Fellows' hall instead of at the opera house.

Our merchants have all enjoyed a fine trade the past two weeks, some of them having been so rushed as to be obliged to keep extra clerks to supply their customers. Few towns in the state can compare with Laclede in the amount of business transacted at this or any other season of the year. It has become an established fact that goods can be bought as cheap here as anywhere, and in many instances much cheaper. Hence, the immense crowds that gather here every week.

As the year nears its end, have you given a thought as to how you stand with the world? This December month is a good time to think about squaring accounts. Your squaring will help the other fellow to square. To owe long is to lose more than you long owe. When the world seems to begin turning against you, have a good talk with yourself and figure how many promises to pay you have thrown into the face of that world unkept.

Never deceive your children. If there is something that they should not know, tell them so, but do not tell them a falsehood, for sooner or later they will find you out. Children look upon their parents as models on which to form themselves, and when a child learns that its mother has deceived it, something is lost forever from its nature. The keen edge of virtue is a trifle dull, a lie is never again so terrible a thing in his eye when he finds that his mother's lips have uttered an untruth to him.

A perfect town is that in which you see the farmer patronizing the home merchants, the laborers spending the money they earn with their own tradesmen, and all animated by a spirit that will not purchase articles abroad if they can be purchased at home. The spirit of reciprocity between man and the mechanic, tradesman and laborer, farmer and manufacturer, results every time in making the town a perfect one to do business in. "Perfection" should always be desired, even where attainment is barely possible, we presume, but a perfect town must be denominated a great rarity until we reach a more advanced stage toward the millennium than has yet been gained.

Some Evening Reveries.

All hail to the New Year! What gifts will it bring? Far richer than any preceding year in the vast wealth of invention and discovery and achievement bequeathed by the glorious years that have passed, what promise is offered that the world will be wiser and better for his coming? What has been done in the year just drawing to a close is the promise and prophecy of better things to come in the one at whose portals we stand. We know not what the new year may bring forth, but we know that of what was gained for mankind in the one that is just finishing its course, nothing will be lost that is fit to survive. It will keep on adding to the domain of human knowledge, to the domain of man over the forces of nature.

Truly, there is no pause in the persistence of force or in the operation of the great law of development. All the achievements of the past are but the elementary beginnings of the great work on which the science and invention have entered—the stepping stones to higher things. And they are pregnant with the promise and the potency of a richer and nobler fruitage in the year whose opening gates we are about to enter. Luminous as has been the past, its light has penetrated only the fringe of the dark mass of barbarism, of ignorance, of poverty, which still darkens a large part of the world and the under strata of society even in civilized states.

Stupendous as seems the progress the world has made, even in our day, it has brought us only to the foothills of the vast ascent, whose far-off summits, rising with the centuries, will be crowned with the glory of that new day when wars shall cease and poverty and crime shall be no more, and the parliament of man shall proclaim the reign of righteousness and peace throughout the federation of the world.

"A vision's baseless fabric!" do you say? Well, dreams lead thousands to a better day.

There come times to us when we don't know which way to turn, or which way to look for aid. No man or woman lives to middle age without going through some hard places. Bitter experience comes to the heart. Dear ones are taken away. Riches are dissipated. The trusted prove unworthy of confidence, and the soul is like a ship beaten by the wind and tossed by the waves. But there is only one way to look. Look up. There, far above the black clouds, forever shines the blue. There, sometimes out of sight, but inexpressibly near to the frail one that seeks His help, is the Friend who is ever gracious. When we are hedged in and go groping in the dark wilderness of despair, his angels are ever ready to take you by the hand and lead you out.

There is nothing so healthful in this world as a cheerful heart and a disposition to look on the rosy side of everything. Trouble is not a physical ailment, but a mental condition. It is hard on the brain, hard on the body and hard on your friends. A clear conscience, a brave heart and a healthy liver means a long and happy life. It is the mistake of the age to worry and fret over things that cannot be realized. Laugh at trouble and it vanishes.

If the reader wishes to settle in a wide-awake community, all he has to do is to look at the local newspapers. A wide-awake, well-supported home newspaper is always associated with good schools, churches, active business and intelligent people. It never fails. No business man or pioneer in any community makes any better investment than in the support of a home newspaper.

TOWN AND COUNTRY

Local Events of the Past Week Recorded For Blade Readers.

Persons indebted to me please call and settle. J. L. Burke.

About 100 cords of good cord wood for sale by E. B. Skulley; 'phone 99. Miss Susie Benson is home from Missouri Wesleyan college to spend the holidays.

Joe J. Ausmus attended a meeting of Metropolitan insurance agents at Moberly last Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. John Edgar, of Manila, P. I., were guests of J. B. Carothers and family last Sunday.

Miss Nellie Barber, teacher in the Laclede schools, is spending the holidays at her home in Brookfield.

Mr. and Mrs. Jno. L. Welsh, of Pollock, are spending the holidays with relatives and friends here.

Oscar Monnett, of Purcell, Indian Territory, spent last Monday with his brothers, L. T. and V. E. Monnett, in Laclede.

A meeting of the Modern Woodmen is called for next Thursday evening, January 3, to perfect arrangements for installation.

Rev. Hatcher came down from Hamilton Monday and joined Mrs. Hatcher in spending the week with relatives and friends here.

Rev. and Mrs. Sipple, of Bucklin, and their daughter, Mrs. Sietz, of Kansas, spent a few days the past week with Prof. and Mrs. Sipple in Laclede.

Mrs. H. J. Brendel and little son came down from St. Joseph Sunday to spend the holidays with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. L. B. Jones, and other relatives here.

Mr. and Mrs. E. F. Meredith, of Breckenridge, came last Saturday and have spent the week with Mrs. Meredith's parents, Mr. and Mrs. McGrew, at the Foreman.

L. E. Humphrey, a successful breeder of mule-foot hogs, shipped a male pig of last July farrow to a customer at Carrollton last Tuesday. It was a fine one weighing 240 pounds.

Everyone is invited to attend the services of the Methodist Episcopal church next Sunday. The pastor will preach at 11 o'clock and the presiding elder, Rev. W. F. Burris, will preach at 7 o'clock.

Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Childress and Mrs. A. R. Bissett attended the funeral of their brother-in-law, Wm. Genrich, in Mexico on Friday of last week. They were accompanied home by Mrs. Genrich and her daughters, who will visit here awhile.

Through THE BLADE the Improved Live Stock Breeders' association invites the farmers and stockmen of this vicinity to attend the great farmers' convention to be held at Columbia January 7 to 13. Nearly \$1,000 in cash and other valuable premiums will be offered for the best exhibits of corn; \$250 in prizes will be given for best butter and cheese. Reduced railroad rates have been granted from all parts of the state.

Taylor O'Neal, who spent his boyhood days in Laclede and attended the Laclede school some forty years ago, is spending this week here visiting his mother, Mrs. Elizabeth O'Neal, and other relatives. He removed from Laclede thirty-four years ago and has been here but few times since. He is surprised at the development and changes that have been made in the town and surrounding country; in fact, he could recognize but little of the old town of a half century ago. Mr. O'Neal made THE BLADE a pleasant visit Wednesday and paid for the paper a year to be sent to his home at Robinson, Kansas.